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July 22, 2002
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Response
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D. N. L.
Patent
8/20/02

Attorney Docket No.: 000519

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Robert E. Reuter, et al.)
Serial No.: 09/636,359) **Examiner:** C. Nguyen
Filing Date: August 11, 2000) **Group Art Unit:** 3635

Title: HYBRID OFFICE PANEL
CONSTRUCTION FOR A MODULAR
OFFICE FURNITURE SYSTEM

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated March 15, 2002, the following remarks are offered:

Remarks

Claims 1 to 18 and 52-56 are pending in the application. Applicants gratefully acknowledge allowance of claims 17, 18, 55 and 56 over the prior art of record. Claims 1-16 and 52-54 stand rejected.

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-11 and 52-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by Waalkes (U.S. Patent No. 5,899,035). Claims 6, 8, 12, 15-16 and 54 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Waalkes in view of Nickens

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